

Minutes of Meeting
Health Services Council
Project Review Committee-I

DATE: 12 June 2012

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Department Operations Center
Rhode Island Department of Health

ATTENDANCE:

Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Committee-I			
Victoria Almeida, Esq. (Chair)	X		
John X. Donahue	X		
Wallace Gernt			X
Theresa Jeremiah			X
Amy Lapierre	X		
Steven Lonardo	X		
Thomas M. Madden, Esq.			X
Robert Ricci		X	
Reverend Shire (Vice-Chair)	X		
Robert Whiteside		X	

Staff: Valentina Adamova, MBA, Michael K. Dexter, MPA, Joseph G. Miller, Esq.

Public: (Attached)

1. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, Conflict of Interest Forms and Extension for the Minutes Availability

The meeting was called to order at 2:33 PM. The Chair noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. A motion was made and passed by a vote of five in favor with none opposed (5-0) that the availability of minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame as provided for under the Open Meetings Act. Those members voting in favor were: Almeida, Donahue, Lapierre, Lonardo, Shire.

2. General Order of Business

The next item on the agenda was the application of **Rhode Island Hospital** [Lifespan Corporation] for certificate of need to acquire a 1.5T MRI for the Emergency Department.

The Committee members discussed the reasons for their support of this application and they included the following: (1) that the MRI unit is dedicated to the ED and that inpatients who heretofore might be bumped in the case of a need for an emergency MRI will no longer be delayed

treatment, (2) the reduced cost to the health care system (reduction during the course of review in projected reimbursement from \$2.6 million to \$1.45 million), (3) the research and information contained in the consultant's report, (4) the need to rebalance medical imaging in the state by putting the MRI units in the right locations for the right purposes, (5) the commitment to the computerized decision support system to reduce unnecessary scanning, (7) the demonstrated clinical need for the proposed unit, and (8) the present high utilization of the MRI units at RIH. The Chair noted the Summary and Conclusions of the consultant's report regarding the superior advantage of MRI and its placement in the ED of RIH.

The Committee noted that there is an overall imbalance with regards to availability and utilization of MRI and CT units in the state and that, at the present time, there does not exist a way for the Health Services Council to rebalance the system. Therefore, the Committee recommended that a copy of the consultant's report be provided to the Healthcare Planning Advisory and Accountability Council.

A motion was made by Rev. Shire, seconded by Mr. Lonardo and passed by a vote of five in favor and none opposed (5-0) to recommend that the application be approved subject to the conditions of approval. Those members voting in favor included: Almeida, Donahue, Lapierre, Lonardo, Shire.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Valentina D. Adamova". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Valentina D. Adamova, MBA
(Acting) Chief Health Program Evaluator